

A3
6. (Amended) The retainer as set forth in claim 18, wherein the content percent of the intermetallic compound is 5 to 30% in area ratio.

12. (Amended) The retainer as set forth in claim 18, wherein the amount of Pb is reduced to an amount in the range of from greater than 0 wt% to 0.1 wt% or lower.

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[Please add the following new claims:]

18. (New) A machined retainer, of a rolling bearing, said retainer being formed by a producing method comprising:

reducing Pb from a base material comprising a free-cutting brass that contains Pb in the range of 0.5-2.0 wt%, wherein the amount of Pb is reduced to an amount in the range of from greater than 0 wt% to 0.4 wt% or lower,

casting the base material, from which the Pb has been reduced, while adding any two or more components selected from the group consisting of Si, Mn, Fe, Nb, Ti, and Co,

cooling, after the casting, in such a manner that the intermetallic compound including the added components is crystallized, and scattered into the base material.

19. (New) The retainer as set forth in claim 18, wherein said free-cutting brass is

YbsC3.